

6A Past simple: *be*



My grandparents **were** at school together, but they **weren't** friends then.

We use *was/were* to talk about the past.
Was/were are the past forms of *am/is/are*.

We often use past time expressions with *was/were*, e.g. *yesterday, last year, in 2012*.

▶ 06.05

	+		-	
I / he / she / it	I was	at home yesterday.	He wasn't	at home yesterday.
you / we / they	They were	at home yesterday.	We weren't	at home yesterday.

	Yes/No questions		Short answers	
I / he / she / it	Was she	at home yesterday?	Yes, No,	she was . she wasn't .
you / we / they	Were you	at home yesterday?	Yes, No,	we were . we weren't .

	Wh- questions		
I / he / she / it	Where	was he	yesterday?
you / we / they	Where	were you	yesterday?

We can also use *there was / there were*:

There was a computer on the table.

There were some chairs in the garden.

6B Past simple: positive

Past simple

We use the past simple to describe completed actions in the past.

We often use past time expressions with the past simple, e.g. *yesterday, last week, when I was a child*.

▶ 06.13

I arrived last night.

I bought a new car last week.

I often visited my grandmother when I was a child.

I sometimes went to the theatre when I **lived** in London.

I liked sweets a lot when I was young.

I had a lot of friends at school.



My parents **bought** me a guitar when I was 12. I **loved** it.

Regular and irregular verbs

Past simple verbs are the same for all persons: *I / you / we / they / he / she / it*.

I worked. She worked. They worked.

You went. He went. We went.

Some verbs are regular. We add *-ed* to make the past simple:
work → **worked** help → **helped**

Some verbs are irregular, and you will need to learn their past forms:

meet → **met** buy → **bought**

There is a list of irregular verbs on p. 129.

SPELLING: regular verbs

most verbs → add <i>-ed</i>	start → started watch → watched
verb ends in <i>-e</i> → add <i>-d</i>	live → lived die → died
verb ends in consonant + <i>-y</i> → change <i>-y</i> to <i>-i</i> then add <i>-ed</i>	try → tried cry → cried
verb ends in one vowel (<i>a, e, i, o, u</i>) and one consonant (<i>g, n, t, etc.</i>) → double the consonant and add <i>-ed</i>	stop → stopped plan → planned
never double the consonants <i>w, x</i> or <i>y</i> → add <i>-ed</i> only	show → showed play → played

7A Past simple: negative and questions

▶ 07.06

	+	-	
I / he / she / it / you / we / they	I enjoyed the trip. I took the train.	He didn't enjoy the trip. He didn't take the train.	
	Yes/No questions		Short answers
I / he / she / it / you / we / they	Did they enjoy the trip? Did they take the train?	Yes, they did . No, they didn't .	
	Wh- questions		
I / he / she / it / you / we / they	Where	did you	go?



Tip

Remember, don't change the main verb in questions and negatives:
I didn't **enjoy** it. (NOT I didn't **enjoyed** it.)
Did you **enjoy** it? (NOT Did you **enjoyed** it?)



7B love / like / don't mind / hate + verb + -ing

▶ 07.12

😊😊😊	I love driving!
😊	I like driving.
😐	I don't mind driving.
😞	I don't like driving.
😡😡😡	I hate driving!

After *like*, *love*, *hate* and *don't mind*, we can use a noun or a verb + *-ing*.

I love **my car**. I love **driving**.

SPELLING: verb + -ing

most verbs → add *-ing*

watch → **watching**

go → **going**

see → **seeing**

verb ends in consonant (g, n, t, etc.) + -e → take away the -e then add *-ing*

drive → **driving**

use → **using**

verb ends in one vowel (a, e, i, o, u) and one consonant (g, n, t, etc.) → double the consonant and add *-ing*

run → **running**

sit → **sitting**

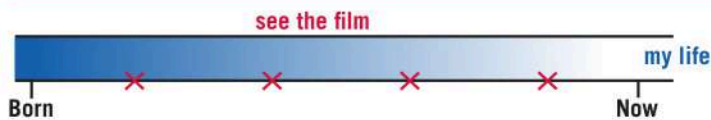
never double the consonants w, x or y → add *-ing* only

know → **knowing**

play → **playing**



11A Present perfect



We use the present perfect to talk about past actions in a time period which starts in the past and continues now, for example: today, this week, this year, your lifetime.

I've seen that film four times (in my life).

I haven't had any coffee today.

Have you been to the gym this week?

We make the present perfect from the verb *have* + the past participle of the main verb.

For regular verbs, the past participle is the same as the past form:

I walked to work yesterday.

I've walked to work three times this week.

For irregular verbs, the past participle is usually different. You have to learn the different forms. (See page 129 for a list of irregular verbs.)

I drove to work yesterday.

I've driven to work three times this week.

11.06

+		
I / you / we / they	I've	seen the film 400 times.
he / she / it	He's	seen the film 400 times.
-		
I / you / we / they	They haven't	seen the film.
he / she / it	She hasn't	seen the film.

We often use the present perfect to talk about experiences:

I've seen the film once. (in my lifetime)

She's met him three times. (in her lifetime)

When we ask a question about experiences, we often use the word *ever*.

Have you ever read this book? = Have you read this book in your lifetime?

We use *never* with the present perfect to say there is no experience.

I've never read her book. = I haven't read her book in my lifetime.

	Yes/No questions		Short answers	
I / you / we / they	Have you	seen the film?	Yes, No,	I have. I haven't.
he / she / it	Has he	seen the film?	Yes, No,	he has. he hasn't.

Tip

The past participle of *go* is *gone*. But we often use the past participle of *be* (*been*) instead of *gone*.

I've been to France. (= I'm not there now.)

Claire's gone to Scotland. (= she's still there now.)

11B Present perfect or past simple

We use the present perfect to talk about the past experiences in our life, but we don't say when exactly. *I've been to Buenos Aires.* (We don't know when.)

We use the past simple to say when something happened (e.g. *last year, yesterday, in 2012*).

I went to the theatre last week. (NOT *I've been to the theatre last week*.)

We often start a conversation by asking about or describing an event using the present perfect, and then change to the past simple to ask about or describe the details of the event.

11.13

- A *Have you ever been to Argentina?* } Focus: my/your life
 B *Yes, I have. I've been there three times.* } Tense: present perfect
- A *I've been there, too. I went there last year.* } Focus: a visit last year
 B *Really? Which cities did you visit?* } Tense: past simple



I've been to Buenos Aires.

